

In the Specification

Please amend the paragraphs that appear on page 3, line 11 to page 4, line 2, as follows.

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A The protection circuits are composed of a diode is provided on the power line of each of the notebook-type PC (diodes D1, D2) and other devices 152A, 152B (diode D3) for the following reasons. Because the notebook-type PC and its ~~devices~~ circuits are connected to devices 152A, 152B via the IEEE1394 bus 150 in a cascade connection manner as shown in Figure 5, electrical power is supplied to the IEEE1394 bus 150 from a power source which has the highest voltage among lithium-ion batteries and power units 154, provided in the notebook-type PC and the attached devices, respectively.

The power units 154 provided for both devices 152A and 152B can possibly output a voltage within the range 8 V to 40 V as allowed by the IEEE1394 standard. However, the inner circuit 110 of the notebook-type PC, as well as the inner circuits of both devices 152A and 152B may not withstand voltages at the higher end of this range and thus to prevent such voltages being applied from external sources, a diode D3 is connected to each power line in the manner shown in Figure 5.

Furthermore, the two diodes D1 and D2 are provided in the notebook-type PC so that they compose the protection circuit 140 ~~of the notebook-type PC so~~ such that one of them can protect the inner circuit 110 of the PC when the other is damaged by a short-circuit caused by a fault, a trouble, etc. This is because another serious trouble (breakage, smoking, ignition, etc.) must be prevented for the reason of safety when any component is down. This is the

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reason why two diodes D1 and D2 are usually provided so as to protect the inner circuit
against such troubles.
